

APRIL 18, 1921

# AVIATION AND AIRCRAFT JOURNAL

VOL. X. NO. 16

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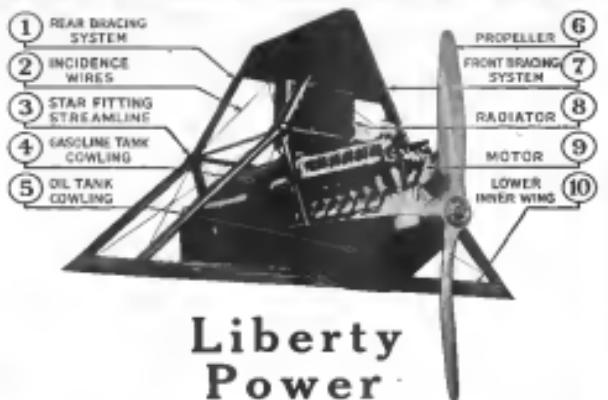
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Vol. X

# AVIATION AND AIRCRAFT JOURNAL

APRIL 16, 1921

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No. 35

## The Air Service Vindication

AIRCRAFT AND AIRCRAFT JOURNAL in this issue has at last set at rest many of the statements that have been current about the gross extravagance of our air service selection during the War. If at the time of the Aviation Contest Kelly could have made the statement that half of the Allies and a quarter billion dollars appropriated for the Air Service during the war had been recovered to the treasury, these would never have been investigations of all sorts and all the heat talk would have been avoided.

But the impression has been created in the public mind regarding the production of armaments and it will take a long time for the truth to override the many associations. It is not to be denied that the inevitable mistakes of judgment occurred, that unnecessary delays hampered the progress and other things happened which could have been avoided. Perhaps some of these may be more satisfactorily explained when all the facts are finally available.

The fact is now established that our Air Service did not cost a "billion and a half dollars," for its net cost was \$60,000,000. The figure 10 per cent of the total expenditure is based on the proportion of the money spent for American built armaments.

The purpose of AVIATION AND AIRCRAFT JOURNAL in investigating this subject at this late date is to end and for all time to dispel the impression which is constantly used in criticizing our future expenditures for air preparedness, that "a billion and a half dollars was wasted" during the war.

## Efficiency of Air Transport

THE paper read by H. White Bush, chairman of the Society of British Aircraft Constructors, before the Royal Aero Club in London, and which is reproduced in this issue, is worth the perusal of all those interested with the organization of commercial air lines. For, while the paper does not raise any points which are not already known to the student of air transport problems, it has the merit of summarizing in a brief and concise manner the cardinal points of the whole question of commercial aviation. On this ground Mr. Bush's paper should prove of considerable interest to that section of the business world which is seriously beginning to consider the status of air transport to supportively existing means of travel and shipping.

Operation of commercial aviation enterprises whose scope is still local, but whose present success encourages them to look toward an expansion of their activities in the shape of regular inter-city services, may also find much food for thought in this paper. The high cost of operating unassisted military aircraft or commercial services is a well-known fact and it is encouraging to see Mr. Bush state on the ground of experience by the English cross-Channel air lines, that by the use of specially designed commercial aircraft the cost of the ton-mile has been reduced to less than half. Since the post-war machines which produced this reduction in operating

costs are relatively "short-and-slow-wings" biplanes, it may be expected that with the introduction of streamlining, low-pressure turbines, which would be equally wonderproduced, a still greater efficiency—and a corresponding economy in operation—will be achieved.

The concluding words of the paper apply with particular fitness to this country, although they were meant to apply to British conditions. Mr. Bush points out that, since Great Britain cannot afford to maintain more than a comparatively small standing air force, the only way to insure a reserve of air power is by creating a commercial air fleet. He concludes by saying that "it is far economy to neglect the development of a force of national defense which can be run on business lines, and this neglect may involve us some day in suddenly spending vast sums of money on the extension of our military and naval air forces."

The truth of this assertion needs no stressing, particularly when applied to American conditions, considering the price the United States paid for the aerial unpreparedness upon declaring war on Germany.

## Japan's Aerial Efforts

INFORMATION on the efforts Japan is making with a view to building up a thoroughly up-to-date air force—with all the manufacturing facilities such a service requires—is coming in with growing frequency. While the information at hand is not, as a rule, very comprehensive, a sufficient number of news items is available to create the impression that Japan shuns no effort to build up an air force that is, in case of war compare with the air forces of the other great powers.

A large number of foreign flying instructors and aeronautical engineers has been engaged to help up the personnel and material value of the Japanese air forces and, judging from some recent performances, much progress has already been made. Several shipbuilding firms have acquired foreign licenses for the manufacture of aerial aircraft and aeronautical engines, and some European firms have established branch organizations in Japan. According to *All the World's Aircraft*, 1920, there were on Japan at the end of last year twelve private aircraft manufacturing firms, including one building big balloons and airships, to whose number must be added the army and navy aircraft factories.

At the same time Japanese military and naval missions have for some time been in Europe inspecting the latest products of the leading aircraft manufacturers and orders have been let, the unknown numbers of purchases, to various British, French and Italian firms. The recent order for 100 Farman-Goliath passenger carriers—which can easily be converted into long range bombers, the more so as they were originally designed as such—is a point in case. All of this shows that Japan is neglecting no opportunity to keep abreast of the times and to prepare for possible emergencies.

# Cost of War Aviation Only \$598,090,781

*Authenticated Official Report of Liquidation Division of U. S. Air Service on Total Appropriation Corrects Misconception of Air Service Expenditures and Shows that \$582,564,781 Has Been Returned to U. S. Treasury*

(Copyright, 1921, by the Standard Model Co., Inc.)

The general impression that a billion dollars was spent for aircraft during the war and that the production program was a factor, not a source of American built planes machine the "fact," it should result from figures compiled by Attorney and Auditor, J. A. DeLoach, from the calculation made by the office of the Chief of Air Service in Washington. The truth is that the actual cost of all war contracts for aircraft, aeronautical equipment, landing fields, ferries, purchases, in fact, everything connected with the expansion and maintenance of our air force at home and abroad, cost the taxpayers less than a hundred million dollars.

The annual amounts appropriated for the Army Air Service during the war are given in the table. From this total account there were saved by Congress two sums aggregating \$487,900,000.00, making the net amount available for expenditures for expenditure \$128,694,780.00.

Until now the charge has been made and the public has been led to believe that most of this money was spent and largely wasted. It is now revealed for the first time by official and authenticated records made by the Liquidation Division of the Air Service that of the amount available for expenditure \$582,564,781.00 has been returned to the United States Treasury.

And these same statistics proved and refuted by the Government's Auditor, J. A. DeLoach, the United States "did nothing for its money." The total unpaid cost for Army aircraft in the United States is \$12,722,543.36, or 19 percent of the total Air Service expenditures. For that money the Government received 13,891 American built airplanes. The Government spent \$30,000,000 ahead for training and the purchase of surplus aircraft, which included 1,000 units of maintenance and production, repair and recovery costs of aeronautical equipment \$1,696 complete airplanes, making a total of 10,082 airplanes purchased for the United States. These were produced in a period of 11 months. Our production for that period exceeds that of any other country for a like period. It is further substantiation of the belief that the rapidly increasing air power requirements forced the war to an early conclusion, because before the war began the government had only 3,200 airplanes on the front. At the signing of the Armistice an addition to the 3,200 airplanes purchased abroad, 2,900 American built airplanes had been shipped to France and 1,640 were at ports of embarkation as it stands. One thousand four hundred and forty airplanes had been actually received in France, of which 677 American made machines were actually in service at the front.

Only within the last few days have these figures been in the public domain. They could not be vindicated in veneration of the war-time air service activities of the government. The Chief of Air Service states that figures "have been published and available for public information for several months, except the important figures showing net expenditures after liquidations and the amount of surplus stocks sold or otherwise disposed of." It is therefore with great satisfaction that American and American Journalists corrects the gross misconception of the past two years.

After two years of adjusting unliquidated war contracts, as previously stated, \$682,564,781 of the \$128,694,780 available has been returned to the Treasury.

April 15, 1921

It is also highly creditable. This was spent for aeronautical engines \$604,603,162.36 in the form of new and 41,923 engines and spare parts were purchased and delivered.

From these revised figures, it may be conceded that the American airplane industry gave a splendid account of itself during the War. There may be a difference of opinion as to the adaptability of the American made machines to meet the requirements of the service, but it must be remembered that the airplane manufacturers could make only the machines that they were ordered to make and that during the war period no attempt was made to make or sell. During the war period plane manufacturers design the effort toward original design and production being centered on the Liberty engine.

It is perhaps more to the credit of our Allies than to our auditors in Washington that more American made airplanes did not reach the front earlier. When the United States entered the War, our Allies urged that we first furnish our material, mechanics and train aviators. Types of aircraft were changing every month, so that it would be difficult with a few months notice, greater manufacturing capacity or greater carrying capacity would replace all previous designs and models.

Under such conditions it was obvious that any American production program should be based on European experience and advice.

That the above facts may be verified from official sources the following statements are printed in original form:

April 6, 1921

MAJOR LESTER D. GOMBER,  
Air Journal and Aircraft Journal,  
225 Fourth Avenue,  
New York City

Dear Sir—

In response to your inquiry as to the exact amount of supplemental appropriations made by Congress during the war period, accompanied by an additional statement showing the amount originally expended for the service, and in regard to the purpose for which the expenditures were made, the Chief of Air Service directs me to advise you as follows:

There is enclosed herewith a statement, File Number A 80-103, showing all supplemental appropriations for U. S. Army from 1917 to 1918, inclusive, giving (after corrections made by Congress) a net total of \$2,206,694,788.

Of the total amount there has been disbursed or reserved for final settlement of all claims to March 31, 1921, the sum of \$17,480,907.

This sum, \$17,480,907, is the gross amount expended for the Signal Corps, exclusive of the appropriations for the war period above mentioned. Your attention is directed to the fact that this includes nearly \$2,000,000 that has been reserved to cover three missing contracts, and yet liquidated.

From surplus stocks, there have been sold, since the war, aeronautical property bought under these appropriations, on which the War Department has realized a cash sum of \$9,359,000.

In addition to the actual sale of property, there have been liquidated contracts to the value of \$6,429,553.35. These results net to be disbursed of other property declared surplus, to the value of \$20,911,35. Disregarding any cash returns that may be realized from future sale of the balance, as well as the transfers to other departments, but deducting the sum already received from sales (\$7,000,000), it will be seen that the net cost of our aeronautical warloads during the war, according to the present view, is \$598,090,781.

This is also satisfied in the attached statement a table showing the disbursements for the procurement of surplus aeronautical engines, balloons and airships specified according to auditors. The figures contained in this statement are taken from "Official Survey," House Document No. 621, 66th Congress, and show figures as of November 1, 1920. These figures were prepared for Congress one year after the Armistice, and after all debts had been liquidated, and the debts were paid off, and slightly modified by final liquidation of contracts that a complete analysis of liquidated figures is not immediately available. All these, however, are included in the final liquidation, and covered in the preceding paragraphs.

There are also enclosed in the same statement, figures showing other items of expenditure from the war aeronautical program. The figures on this statement are taken from the figures submitted to Congress by the Air Service, and published in Part II, of "United Air Service, Hearing before a Subcommittee of the Committee on Military Affairs, House of Representatives, 66th Congress, 2nd Session." With these figures before you, you will be able to determine the purpose for which the \$604,603,162.36 was expended. The figures, as far as I can determine, are not necessarily final, as they were prepared before legislation, but they are sufficiently accurate for preliminary purposes in considering this question.

The subject of your inquiry cannot be properly considered, however, without reference to the further fact that in addition to the上述 described surplus and sold or offered for sale upon the war, we held, an additional salvage from war expenditures, such as aeronautical equipment constituting a national asset, such as complete airplanes, aircraft, aircraft, tanks, etc., which were not required for future use of the service. In addition to this equipment, and probably the greatest asset, from the war, are the thousands of trained flying airmen and mechanics, together with our training fields, hangars and other ground facilities. All of the figures contained in the above have been published and available for public information for several months, except the important figure showing net expenditures after liquidation and the amount of surplus stocks sold or otherwise disposed of.

Very respectfully,  
H. M. HOWARD,  
Major, Air Service,  
Chief of Information Group.

War Department Appropriations U. S. Army, 1918-1920

The following information sets forth the appropriations specifically provided by Congress for the Air Service, as the bills passed. The amount of each bill will vary for some of these figures, as the bills included appropriations for the purposes of the Signal Corps proper, as well as for aeronautics in the Signal Corps.

These figures show the allowances made to cover purchases and contracts, and are not figures representing actual disbursements. It is practically impossible to segregate figures on the actual disbursements under each and every class of material or service paid for from Air Service funds.

For the information of those who did not include allowances in their appropriations, we quote from "United Air Service," "Bills Before a Subcommittee of the Committee on Naval Affairs, House of Representatives, Sixty-ninth Congress, Regular Session," statement of Lt. Col. Joseph E. Pfeifer, Air Service, page 162 thus—, with the exception of the sum of \$6,600,000.00, the allowances under which are not shown in the hearings.

As the statements in the hearings of the date of June 30, 1919, show, the allowances made were not only, therefore, entirely for the Air Service, but also for other services and supplies not made up to funds reserved for settlement of unliquidated or unpaid contracts.

It will be seen from the statements in the hearings that it is practically impossible to arrive at figures which show the actual amounts disbursed for purely aeronautical purposes.

Page 168, lines 7, 8, 9, some of these telephone systems were installed at Air Service stations. Under Page 16, some of the radio equipment was for the Air Service. Page 162 shows the transportation for the Air Service. Page 163 shows the attached telephone systems have been included only those aeronautics specifically named as for the Air Service.

On page 168, the items under "Aviation, Seaplane Defense," "Aviation, Seaplane Defense, Insular Possessions, Hawaii," or "Aviation, Seaplane Defense, Insular Possessions, Philippines," include wages appropriated for aeronautics, prior to the declaration of war, which names were partially used during the war, and even in 1921.

Other items in these hearings include purely Signal Corps allotments, which have no relation to aeronautics.



# European Developments in Helicopters

The National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics has just issued its Technical Note No. 47, which contains the first detailed account of recent European developments in helicopters.

The Note deals with two different types of helicopters. The first one described, which was developed through the efforts of Leut. Sturz. von Petrosky, of the Austrian army, and Professor Karman, the well known aerodynamics expert, has the main feature of being driven by a single gasoline engine. Fifteen seconds were attained by this helicopter, and the greatest height attained was 160 ft. The initial date back to 1924 the first flight taking place on April 2 of that year.



KARMAK—Petrosky Helicopter During One of Its Trials while the last ascent occurred on June 16, 1924, when the machine was wrecked without however causing any fatalities.

The section of the Note dealing with this helicopter and with its applications is credited to Professor Karman, the information having apparently been taken from a report made by the writer.

The second part of the Note describes the Lacos-Danzl helicopter, mentioned on where started two years ago in Part I of this article with the following statement of the French War department:

This machine differs from the Karman-Petrosky helicopter mainly in that the lifting apparatus consists of two propellers rotating on separate shafts, whereas on the former machine the propellers were concentrically arranged. This machine has not flown as yet.

Following is an extract from the Technical Note issued by the N.A.C.A.:

## Toys of the Karman-Petrosky Helicopters

**Petrosky Work.** The tests in question were management upon the part of Prof. Karman and the construction of a captive helicopter, offered by First Lt. Sturz. von Petrosky, then Commander of Balloon Pilot Instruction, to the Austrian-Hungarian War Office. Lieutenant von Petrosky also re-

quested to be accompanied with a certain man for testing experiments.

The first tests were made at the Austrian Airplane Factory, Linz, Wiener Neustadt, with propellers of either large diameter. The Brucker Works at Wiener Neustadt also received an order from the Austrian Arsenal to build on the construction of a light 300 lb. electro-motor originally intended for glider airplanes. As this motor was intended to weigh 300 lb. only, according to the statement of the firm, the possibility of a cable was taken into consideration.

The Austrian Airplane Factory proceeded no further than general drafts. When Prof. Karman was interested with the drawing of all the tests of the captive helicopter, in the early part of 1921, the work was commenced systematically along two lines. First of all tests were made at the propeller-testing laboratory, using two engines. One engine was used in order to throw light on stability conditions of the helicopter with very small models, walked by rubber cords, thus with a heavier 90 lb. model driven by a 5 hp. compressed air engine specially constructed for the purpose.

These tests led to the discovery of a special kind of cable, which ensured stability and which was used in all later models.

On the basis of the above-mentioned preliminaries, tests were performed using two kinds. One consisted of electric power and the other wireless current, engine of the motor type. A short description of these two methods, with a report of the tests made in connection follows.

**The Captive Helicopter Driven by Electric Power.** The machine was completely equipped with electro-motor, electric cable and weight before being lifted working on the ground. The framework itself was composed of steel tubes, with an observer's seat at the side of the engine. There was a wide view and firing range in all directions. The lifting power was furnished by four propellers driven by a motor by means of cone gear. Its weight empty, including motor and propeller, was about 1,600 lb. The electro-motor weighed 430 lb. According to the Daimler Co., its output should have been 320 hp. (originally 300 hp. for 500 lb. weight), and it has actually yielded 200 hp. though at the rate of 150 rpm. The motor had to be stopped every 15 sec., running it had to be stopped. Even with this reduced power, the lifting tests proved successful, for the machine rose to a low altitude with three passengers.

The advantage of equipping the already completed machine with two motor engines, replacing the instead of longitudinal gears was recognized, but the idea was not carried out, for with two engines the weight would be increased.

**The Karman-Petrosky Helicopter Driven by Gasoline Engines.** The engine helicopter fitted with gasoline engines consisted of a framed frame made of steel tubes, in which those reconstructed Le Rhône engines, of 125 hp. each, were mounted. The engine drove two propeller shafts, revolving in opposite directions by means of a transmission gear, and these propellers shafts in turn drove two smaller propellers, each 20 ft. in diameter, at about 600 rpm. These gasoline tanks were mounted on the side of the observer's seat.

The engine system was supported by a large buffer, which was kept tightly filled with air through an air-pump driven by the engine, under the end of each tank these small buffers were masterfully disposed. The object of these buffers was to reduce the shock in abrupt landings. The observer's seat, made of wood, was situated over the propellers and strongly bound to the frame by means of the rear axle of the engine propeller shaft. A small gasoline tank was located on the upper rear of the observer's seat.

A gasoline tank was fitted behind the observer. It had an area of 2,000 sq. ft. and was intended, in case of sudden stoppage of the motor, to bear the weight of the entire installation, including the observer. The gasoline tank was to operate either automatically or manually.

Automatically the gasoline operates in such tanks that when a regulator adjusted for this purpose, falls below a certain number of revolutions of the propeller, it releases a mechanism

April 18, 1925.

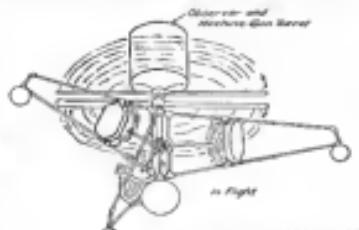
AVIATION

## Applications of the Captive Helicopter

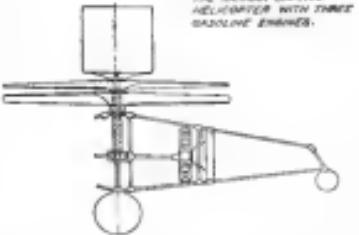
(a) **Captive Helicopter with Cage, for Observation Purposes during War on Land.** The advantages of the captive helicopter as compared to ordinary balloons are as follows. They are more compact, they can fly higher, they provide localized targets for artillery; they are mounted with guns and are especially adapted for shooting upward during attacks by airplanes; they are less vulnerable, they can be started without any loss of time and can be rapidly transferred from one place to another.

The comparison may be continued by stating that a balloon must be maneuvered by sailing, while a captive balloon

is controlled from the northwest. (British) fleet, with one balloon



DIAGRAMMATIC DRAWING OF THE KARMAN CAPTIVE HELICOPTER WITH THREE GASOLINE ENGINES.



DIAGRAMMATIC SKETCHES OF THE KARMAN—PETROSKY HELICOPTER

requires 1 automobile-wagon, 2 motorcars, 1 gasoline-gas wagon, 3 freight wagons, 6 officers and 157 men; whereas a captive helicopter with one engine requires 3 automobile cars with three trailers, 4 motor-trucks, 2 officers and 93 men.

(b) **Captive Helicopter for Observation from Battle-Ships.** Adapted in a suitable manner, the captive helicopter might prove to be the best possible means of taking long-distance observations from battle-ships.

(c) **Captive Helicopters for the Protection of Open Towns and Cities from Airplane Raids.** A series of captive balloons would not only be able to give warning of the approach of an airplane, but also to drop incendiary bombs, which could be set to open effective defences firing, if properly aimed.

(d) **Captive Helicopters without Cage for Radio Purposes.** These helicots carried out with life-balloons or antenna have always been unsuccessful either on account of a breakdown of the kite-apparatus at a low wind velocity, or because of disturbing action of the balloon masses during aspasia. These difficulties would be avoided by the use of captive helicopters and are therefore of particular utility for wireless

## AVIATION

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and districts where stable mast-construction cannot be carried out and which may also give rise to great difficulty.

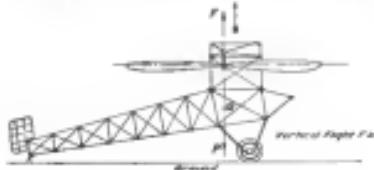
(a) *Copter Helicopters for Meteorological Work.* By means of the captive helicopter, supporting devices can easily be taken up and measurements carried out rapidly in all weather.

## The Danskopter Helicopter

Description of the Machine. The machine comprises two rotating wings; a fuselage, two stabilizing planes with their

by a special device provides the mechanical connection for the two transmissions.

*Warping Device for the Blades.* This is composed of a maneuvering organ (control stick and lever), of cables for transmission of movement, and of a warping gear and control of the blades. For operating this device consists of a support frame carrying on a bearing cup and four articulated lever levers acting on the blades of the wings by means of metal cables.



Maneuvering Flight F/P  
T Lifting Force  
T Horizontal Thrust



Apparatus Line of Propulsion  
Diagrammatic Drawing of the Danskopter Helicopter

rotors; a radio with its control, a landing gear, two engine sets with their automatic clutch device, transmission of movement and clutch coupling, and a warping device with controls.

*Rotating Wings.* Each wing is formed of four blades assembled by means of a hub situated on a circular revolving shaft on the axis of the main frame. Each blade has an angle of about 56° at 3°.

*Propulsion.* This consists of two parts: the first part is metallic and is formed of steel tubes pointed together in butane flame and hooked up by steel wire braiding. The other part is the rear is formed of a wooden frame and is also in little work.

*Stabilizing Planes.* There are two planes situated to the rear of the fuselage and maintained by a brass beam. They are controlled by a metallic cable worked by a wheel.

*Landing Gear.* The landing gear consists of two V-shaped brackets with crossbars and with braiding wires; the wheels with pneumatic tires are attached to them by a elastic suspension.

*Engine Drive.* Each set consists one Le Bourget engine. The drive shafts consist of two shafts from a single base and are coupled to the engine by an automatic engaging and releasing device.

The shaft base has a pinion which works a gear wheel, this gear wheel being situated in a crankcase cover which carries the rotary movement of the wings by means of cables fixed to the base.

An elastic shock absorber composed of lever gear connected

## AERONAUTICS



Type	General Characteristics		
	Dimensions	Weight	Performance
Total length	30 ft	1	0
Span of rotating wings	40 ft	1	0
Span of wings	40 ft	1	0
Width of wings	10 ft	1	0
Height	10 ft	1	0
Number of main landing planes	2	1	0
Number of persons	2	1	0
Speed of maximum velocity	120 m.p.h.	1	0
Range of maximum distance	120 m.p.h.	1	0
Landing per square foot of tilted surface	10 lb	1	0

## CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ENGINE

The Motor	Le Bourget	110 H.P. at 1800 r.p.m.	
Compressions	2.5	1	0
Number of cylinders	2	1	0
Number of valves	2	1	0
Exhaust	2	1	0
Number of main landing planes	2	1	0
Number of persons	2	1	0
Speed of maximum velocity	120 m.p.h.	1	0
Range of maximum distance	120 m.p.h.	1	0
Landing per square foot of tilted surface	10 lb	1	0

## Experimental Laboratory Test

*Object of Test.* To determine the comparative values of the powers absorbed by the hub of the propeller, and of corresponding speeds and thrusts at the final point.

*Designation of Propellers.* According to indications given by the applicant, the propeller possessed was a reduced one of one of the two lifting propellers of a new airplane called "The Aerion". The propeller was made of wood and its chief characteristics were as follows:

April 18, 1933

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Number of blades	5
Diameter of Propeller	34 ft.
Maximum width of blades	12 in.

*Description of Installation.* The propeller was mounted on the dynamometric pendulum of the laboratory which allows the direct measurement of the power absorbed and of the corresponding speeds and thrusts at the final point.

*Procedure of Test.* The determinations of the powers absorbed and of the speeds were effected by prolonged successive thrusts of 3, 6, 12, and 18 kilogrammes as indicated by the applicant.

For each experiment the speed of the propeller was increased until we gave the proper thrust; when the regime was stabilized, the power absorbed by the hub was noted and the number of revolutions made by the propeller in one minute. For each three measurements were made and the average was taken.

The results obtained are summarized in the following table:

Type of Test	September 4, 1932		
	Dimensions	Characteristics	Characteristics
Thrust	30	1	0
Number of revolutions	1200	800	700
Power absorbed by the hub	1000	800	600
Power absorbed by the propeller	300	200	150
Speed of rotation of the propeller	1000	800	700

*Dynamic pressure during the last example to 8 kg. Gost J 1912.0 mm. mercury barometric temperature at any time*

## National Southern Air Tournament

The National Southern Air Tournament, which was held at Bellview, Fla., March 26-27-28, aroused much interest among spectators, which promises much toward advancing the entire program of the leaders in communications which it has suffered, and which has greatly retarded its growth. It is estimated that the tournament was attended or witnessed by nearly 100,000 persons, moreover by many men, both from the Trade, Bay region and by aeronauts from distant parts of the State.

As a result of the tournament, a Committee for the Advancement of Aviation in the South was formed, consisting of Major Charles H. Tamm of Tampa, Major Ned Mitchell of St. Petersburg and Major Frank J. Booth of Clearwater, Harry E. Jones, president of the Tampa Board of Trade, Jim Bowden, president of the St. Petersburg Board of Trade, George E. Wadsworth, president of the Clearwater Board of Trade, C. H. Price, president of the Brooksville Board of Trade, and Charles M. Hougham, secretary of the Clearwater Board of Trade and Secretary of the Committee.

## National Government Presented

The Aeronautic 16-passenger plane "Nina" of the Key West Seaplane Line, Capt. Frank Land pilot, made a record Trans-Atlantic flight, the first ever made by an American aircraft in Bellview, which were presented at luncheon by Eddie E. Conley, vice president of the Bellview Hotel. After a number of addresses, in which the advent of nonstop flying was welcomed as greatly contributing to Florida's renown from inadequate interpretation, Major Tamm introduced a resolution which reads in part as follows:

"RESOLVED, That such Federal policy of the Air instead of the Army, is most essential, the establishment of ports and airports of air routes and the development of training and other services to facilitate safe and regular operation of transport lines."

## Large Number of Participants

The National Southern Air Tournament was participated in by the Army and Navy air services, the industry and the Air clubs of America.

Aero Club of America, The Aeronautics Plane and Motor Co., through the Aeromarine West Indies Flying Club, Inc., and the Aeromarine Engineering and Sales Co., were represented by Major B. L. Smith in command of the "Nina". The Curtiss Aeroplane & Motor Corp. was represented, through half a dozen airplane salesmen, by Charles E. Logan and John E. Morris of the Curtis Southwest Airlines Co. The Glendale Aircraft Corp., the Wright Aeronautical Corp., and the Standard Oil Co. were well represented.

The star event of the tournament was the Southern Aerial Derby, which was won by a 200-hp. transplanted source and was won by Lieut. Victor D. H. Starks on a DH-4B in 56 min. 56 sec. Alongside there were nine starters. Other contestants included Lindbergh named to the mark, who was by Lieut. R. C. Crossen on a Curtiss-Wright parasol biplane, racing, won by the "Mira" and various exhibitions of aerobatics, formation flying, etc.

The flying feature of the tournament was a seaplane race, which was run over a 10-mile triangular course and was won by Lieut. G. W. Kirk, U. S. N. A., on a naval 15-ft. flying boat, in 42 min. 22 sec. The Aeromarine West Indies flying boat "Mira" sportively entered the contest with nine passengers on board, and although the man was 4,000 lb. heavier than the winning DH-4B, the "Mira" covered the course in 57 min. 45 sec., or at an average speed of 64 m.p.h.

News of the Aero Clubs  
Aero Club of Pennsylvania

Through the generosity of a member of the Club, who has requested that his name be withheld for the present, there has been donated a fund of \$300 to be applied to aerial tuition of a number of young men. This fund is now in the hands of the Aero Service Corp. of Philadelphia, who maintain a year round school of flying at the official flying field of the Club, 56th and Locust Street, intended to divide this fund into five amounts of \$60 each to be given to five young men nominated by Aero clubs as candidates to take flying lessons during the winter session. The seven hours course of the school has lately been reduced and thus division of \$60 to five candidates will make it \$30 for the aero clubs issuing to those fortunate students to be selected for the course.

The Aero Club of Pennsylvania after four years makes the privilege of nominating each aero club to share in the distribution of the fund. A member of any aero club affiliated with the Aero Club of America is eligible to make application for use of the above mentioned courses. The Aero Club of Pennsylvania is reserving just one of the scholarships for a club member which will nominate.

## American Minister Visits Fokker Works

The American minister to the Netherlands, Mr. Phelps, on a recent trip to Amsterdam visited the aerodrome at Schiphol, where he inspected the Fokker commercial airplane which are shortly to be placed on service by the K.L.M. Air Lines (Royal Air Transport Co. for Netherlands and Colonies). The K.L.M. has intends to start regular air service between France and Amsterdam, Paris and Amsterdam; London and Amsterdam; Copenhagen and Amsterdam; Berlin and Amsterdam; Stockholm and Amsterdam; and Kopenhagen and Amsterdam.

While at Schiphol on the guest of Anthony A. Fokker, Mr. Phelps viewed Amsterdam from the air in one of the Fokker cabin monoplanes.

## Note

Col. Thomas H. Rose has requested that credit be given to Maj. H. E. Martin, of the Engineering Division, Air Service Corps, for the preparation of the report on the investigation of the A.S.E. winter meeting which was held on March 21-22 at the Hotel Astor and Astoria Hotel. Colored film was made in attend the meeting on account of climate. It was suggested that this address was prepared by him and delivered, owing to his inability to attend the meeting, by Major Martin.



# Airplane Efficiency in Public Transportation

By H. White-Smith\*

Chairman, Society of British Aircraft Constructors

When considering aerial transport in relation to air in comparison with other forms of transport it is useful to consider in the first place of what efficiency in transport consists. We find that the most efficient form of transport is a combination of the following qualities—(1) Speed, combined with a capacity for covering distance. (2) The ability to convey merchandise, mails or passengers from one point to another without undue delay. (3) Economy of operation. (4) Safety and reliability. (5) Economy of working, producing the lowest possible price for the amount of service rendered.

Given these qualities as being those necessary for efficient transport services, I think we may with safety say that the



HANLEY PAGE 10-PASSENGER CABIN AIRPLANE USED ON THE LONDON-PARIS SERVICE

airplane gives the greatest promise of efficiency of all modern transport. Let us examine these points in the order in which I have stated them—

## Speed

As far as speed is concerned, the airplane—and I use that term in a general sense, covering the aeroplane and seaplane—has outstanding advantages over all forms of transport. At the present stage of development we do not think of aerial transport except in terms of 100 m.p.h. By this I mean what is termed cruising speed, and not the full speed of the aircraft, which approximates to 125 m.p.h. For the time being, a speed of 100 m.p.h. is probably the most economical to adopt, but there is no reason why, in the future, we should not have a cruising speed of 200 m.p.h. with top speeds of 250 to 280 m.p.h.

No other form of transport can as yet measure approach these starting speeds. To enable you to appreciate the advantage in speed which the airplane has over other modes of transport I have prepared a short table showing the times taken by the express train and boat to reach the principal towns in Europe, and also the time in which the airplane could complete the journey. The airplane times are based on an average flying speed of 100 m.p.h., allowing half-on-hour's delay to change machines at each stopping place.

The air routes are all present, and an fast than to Paris, Brussels, Amsterdam, Berlin, Vienna, Berlin, Copenhagen and Prague should be in operation this year, said by British air freight transport companies.

On comparatively short distances, such as to Paris, Brussels and Amsterdam, there is no difficulty in travelling from port to port in a few hours, but in some of the places, such as Marseilles, Hamburg, Berlin, Copenhagen, the distance must also be covered for certainly nine months of the year in the case of the last two. In the case of the first two, under present road traffic a stop would have to be made when darkness fell and a start made by daybreak next day with a consequent loss of much time and efficiency of service. If night flying is developed, an eight hours the efficiency and possibilities of airplane services will be vastly improved, and even so the figures of daylight flying only it will be seen that in the case of nonstop flights of a light character, of road traffic and direct air transport, the saving of time by aircraft is so enormous that it is difficult to conceive the value of this mode of transport. I think you will agree, therefore, that, judged on speed alone, the airplane is the most efficient mode of transport.

**In Economy: Merchandise, Mail, or Passengers without Conscientious Handling or Charging.**

It is obvious the less hand it is there is on any consignment of goods the more you reduce handling charges, measured with

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AVIATION

the more rapid movement of a greater amount of goods; therefore any form of transport which reduces handling is suitable for efficiency. The airplane has a considerable advantage over other forms of transport. Take a parcel being sent from London to Paris. First of all it is placed in the van, from the van it is moved into the train, from the train to the boat, from the train again, then to another van, then to the boat, then to the airplane, which makes a van trip to the destination, a service of at least two hours. To handle a parcel whose goods are in all liable to damage the reduction of handling will be apparent, as it means less liability to damage, fewer charges for handling and greater safety.

Another feature which is of real importance at the present time is the almost complete elimination of the risk of pilferage. In the above example, it will be seen that the last instance that the rate of pilferage against all risks for a parcel despatched by air is anything from one-third to one-half of the rate when sent by land and sea. It may be argued that, on the longer routes, such as to Rome and Madrid, the relay system of aircraft would be operated, and

since as it does no other sea or land, there is a great advantage in regards the place of departure or landing. Land transports are not available, probably the sea or river would be available, and its mobility is therefore correspondingly greater.

## Safety and Reliability

The next question is how far we consider as sufficient to efficiency of transport in that of safety, and reliability with regard to accidents. Although there is but a short history and experience behind the development of aerial transport, it has already an excellent record for safety and reliability. While accidents do happen to aircraft, and some of them serious, yet the record of commercial flying is surprisingly good. For 17 months up to Sept. 1, 1920, per 1,000 passengers carried, the number of fatal accidents was 26, and the deaths were 26, or one in 12,560 and the injuries 15, or one in 6,500 people.

The chief difficulty to be solved is that of flight navigation instruments and wireless telephones are being developed, and directional wireless improved, permitting the navigation of aircraft out of sight of landmarks and guides; equally



VICKERS-VIMY 10-PASSENGER CABIN AIRPLANE OF THE IMPERIAL AIR LINE, FLYING ON THE LONDON TO PARIS SERVICE

will there be consequential transference of the goods and passengers at various stages of the journey, but even so, these stages would be of considerable length, probably not less than 600 miles, with reasonably frequent changes, and part of the standard equipment of goods-carrying aircraft would be a type of specially made "conveyance" which would be rapidly transferred from one airplane to another, the handling would be in bulk, and the risk of pilferage from these sealed containers practically nil.

## Mobility

Another important point of the airplane is its mobility. The only factor controlling mobility is the necessity of going somewhere for departure and landing. The operators of aircraft, however, place their landing grounds at any distance and in the most remote portions of population, with equal facility, the small village.

The value of the quality of mobility will be most apparent, however, in our great dominions and colonies and the other countries of wide distances. In the colonies you have to send packages of valuable or solid in gold and silver. There are great open areas which are reached by railroads, and it is evident that the mobility of the airplane will be of the greatest service. In these places the cost for transportation will be cheap, and they will be easy of extraction.

In reviewing this question of mobility the development of the amphibian will for our careful consideration, for oper-

ation of aircraft in the very important question of the cost of operation and its effect on the efficiency of transport.

As regards economy of working in the air, the war experience was partly retrograde, and we far from helping to develop economy, that quality had to be completely disregarded, and the first and only consideration was necessarily efficiency in air fighting. We still have hardly shaken off the war idea, but with the development of civil aviation there has been a steady improvement in the design of commercial aircraft, productive of economy. War machines such as the Alcock 9 and the "Bristol" Fighters cost to operate per ton mile about 3 times as much as a civil plane.

In examining the question of economy in operation we must have regard to the effect of speed. In all forms of transport, however speeds which are economical, and any increase on these speeds means increase in cost of operation. The same applies in the air. The economical air figure is the high one, in which I have already referred, of about 300 m.p.h.

To examine the comparative cost of transport by air, land

and so on, I have set out a short table which shows what it will cost to transport a ton of cargo on five journeys, one short, London to Paris, (260 miles), the other longer, London to Marsden (780 miles).<sup>1</sup> I have also the cost per passenger and the time occupied by the various modes of transport.

#### LONDON TO PARIS, 260 MILES

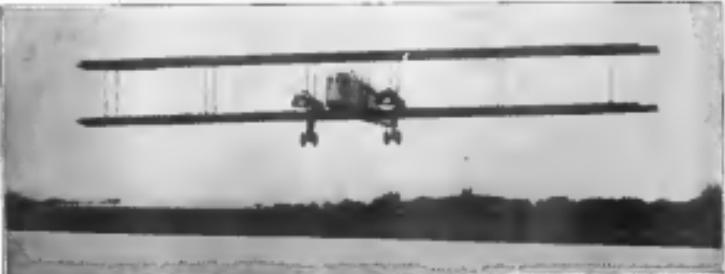
METHOD OF TRANSPORT	MILES		PASSENGERS	
	TIME	PER CWT	TIME	COST
Train and Boat	4 days	10s	9 days	5/- 1/-
Fair Freight	10 days	1s 6d		
Air freight	10 days	1s 6d		
Steamship	20 days	1s 6d		
Air transport	2½ hrs	£10	8 hrs	£10/-

LONDON TO MARSDEN, 780 MILES				
METHOD OF TRANSPORT	TIME	PER CWT	PASSENGERS	COST
Train and Boat	10 days	1s 6d	10	1s 6d
Fair Freight	10 days	1s 6d		
Air freight	10 days	1s 6d		
Steamship	20 days	1s 6d		
Air transport	2½ hrs	£10	8 hrs	£10/-

#### Dificulty of Raising Capital

The difficulty today is that of raising capital, to find investors, to people who will take a long-term view of the industry, and who can, and are prepared to finance the costs of the services. The Government has very little to offer, indeed, which would materially assist firms were seriously operating, it is essential that capital be found to purchase the right-class aircraft and equipment which are necessary, and the cost of which are prohibitive for private firms to run the services efficiently and reasonably enough to profitably compete. In this connection, we believe in the Society of British Aircraft Constructors, of which I have the honor to be Chairman. I have submitted a proposal to the Air Ministry that the Government should come forward at this juncture and provide the funds required for manufacturing the fair-weather aircraft, and eventually that the firm should be forced to hand over to the competing companies on a license to be agreed. The operating companies would naturally be responsible for the full insurance of the aircraft, and the risk per-



FAIREY "GOLIATH" CARGO AIRPLANE USED ON THE PARIS TO LONDON SERVICE IN A FRENCH AIR LINE

At a first glance it will be said that the cost of air transport is high, but you must consider cost in relation to the time occupied. That is, the cost of passengers, time is money, and the business man has as much time saved to devote to other business interests, incidentally to reduce his expenses for hotels, meals, etc., by means of the shorter time saved for a journey.

It is important to bear in mind that whereas the older forms of transport have reached a point at which very little reduction in cost of operation is possible, we are only at the beginning with aircraft, and it should be possible to effect a gradual reduction. Take the case of airmail. At present the cost of airmail is about 10s per ounce. This represents approximately one-third of the total mailing cost. Every penny reduction per ounce or the price of postage, or every penny that can be saved by improvements of engine or aircraft design, will help toward reducing this very expensive item.

I have addressed my remarks to the business man with the object of trying to impress him that the air is an efficient mode of transport—if not at present the most efficient, and that it is to his advantage to use. I do not suggest that aerial transport will displace other forms of transport. Generally speaking, the newer forms of communication have not displaced the old, but have become additional and complementary to them, and I think this will go to with the development of aerial transport.

<sup>1</sup> These figures are to be compared with American conditions with those in America, New York City direct and New York to Chicago, 1700 miles—airline.

commercial aviation which deserves the consideration of the British public and the government. In times of peace, it is obvious that we, as a nation, cannot afford more than a comparatively small standing air force. It follows, therefore, that the only way in which we may have a measure of air power is to develop a civil air service.

A most important factor of maintaining a strong mercantile air fleet is the demands that will be made on our contractors for the design and supply of aircraft which can be economically used in practical operations, and consequently a steady development of the power of aircraft production, associated with the building up of a great industry employing large numbers of workers, will be undertaken in this country. We are all for economy, but it is also necessary to ensure the development of a form of national defence which can be run on business lines, and this neglect may involve us some day in suddenly spending vast sums of money on the extension of our military and naval air force.

#### Organization of U. S. Army Air Service

Center of Air Service  
Major Gen. Charles T. Menoher  
ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION  
Adj'tg. Gen. (Colonel) Michael E. Kuhn

Major W. H. Franklin  
ADMINISTRATIVE EXECUTIVE  
Major J. W. Edwards, Jr.  
U. S. SERVICE PERSONNEL COUNCIL

Major J. E. Purcell (Postured, Dres.)  
Capt. W. P. Voskamp (Washington, D. C.)  
DIRECTOR OF AIRCRAFT PRODUCTION  
Capt. W. E. Hartney  
Engineering Division  
Capt. W. P. Voskamp

CHIEF BOARD (Air Service)  
Capt. W. P. Voskamp  
Personnel Air Services  
Major Morris Hall (London, England)

Lt. Col. E. H. Steiner (Paris, France)  
Lt. Col. J. R. Chesser (Rome, Italy)  
Major B. D. Poston (Berlin, Germany)  
Adj'tg. Board

Lt. Col. A. L. Parker, President  
SUPPLY GROUP  
Lt. Col. W. E. Gilmore, in charge

Procurement Contracts—Capt. W. P. Voskamp  
Requirements Division—Major Ryson Q. Jones  
Property Division—Major George H. Bent  
Procurement Division—Col. G. C. Hall

Material Procurement—Col. G. C. Hall  
Engineering Division (Dayton, Ohio)—Major Thomas H. Bone  
Major H. W. Barnes, Washington Representative

TESTING AND OPERATIONS GROUP  
Lt. Col. J. E. Foch, in charge  
Training Division—Major Maxwell Kirby  
Operations Division—Major W. G. Bishop  
Curtiss Aeroplane Division—Capt. H. E. Hartney  
Biplane and Ground Division—Major E. Van Nuys

Maj. J. W. Stevens, in charge  
Medical Division—Col. A. E. Tracy  
Personal Division—Major Ruth B. Linton  
Motor Vehicles Division—Major J. W. Stevens, Jr.

INFORMATION GROUP  
Major H. M. Bishop, in charge  
Collection Division—Not yet appointed  
Documentation Division—Major Ryson Q. Jones  
Editorial Division—Lieut. C. H. McRae  
Reproduction Division—T. J. Keay  
Special Division—Major H. M. Bishop

#### Geographical Distribution of Flights

At hearings before Congressional Committees, there was shown a map which illustrated the location of the qualified aviators in the Air Service Officers' Reserve Corps. This map gives an excellent idea of the places where flying could expect

to receive support in this country. The significant fact shown by this distribution is that there are more in every state of the Union. Of the 6892 aviators listed, 4807 are in aviation and 225 in aeronautics.

#### GEOPGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF QUALIFIED FLIGHTS OF THE AIR SERVICE, OFFICERS' RESERVE CORPS, JAN. 1, 1931

(FLIGHTS AND COUNTRY)	STATISTICS	AVIATORS	TYPE
Maine	25	3	28
New Hampshire	25	2	22
Vermont	18	1	18
Massachusetts	20	6	20
Rhode Island	14	1	14
Connecticut	50	2	35
New York	450	8	450
New Jersey	450	10	450
Delaware	10	1	10
Pennsylvania	387	9	386
Maryland	83	2	85
District of Col.	89	1	89
Virginia	33	2	35
No. Carolina	60	14	594
South Carolina	10	1	10
Georgia	71	5	74
Florida	22	1	23
Alabama	61	1	61
Mississippi	27	1	28
Tennessee	74	1	75
Louisiana	30	3	33
Arkansas	33	3	33
Mississippi	362	5	367
W. Virginia	47	1	47
Oklahoma	247	6	253
Indiana	131	2	133
Kentucky	43	2	44
Illinois	452	10	467
Wisconsin	378	10	388
Michigan	397	1	398
Minnesota	306	3	308
Missouri	311	5	315
Nebraska	137	5	142
Kansas	195	9	204
Colorado	138	1	139
Wyoming	25	1	25
Utah	23	1	24
Oregon	722	16	722
Nevada	69	2	71
Arizona	232	5	238
California	905	20	925
Total	4977	125	4982

# Dopes and Protective Coverings\*

The following data are issued in order to give those concerned a general idea of the various dyes and instructions for applying them to fabrics.

## Descriptives

**Dope.** It is a somewhat viscous solution of cellulose nitrate or cellulose acetate. Both cellulose acetate and cellulose nitrate dopes consist of four classes.

(a) **The Film Making Concentrates.**—The bases or film making concentrates for dopes are cellulose acetate or cellulose acetate. Cellulose acetate is made by the action of nitric acid and acetic anhydride on cotton. Cellulose acetate of cellulose acetate is more concentrated than that of cellulose nitrate, therefore cellulose acetate is more expensive.

(b) **Latexes.**—The latexes are the liquids which are used to dissolve the cellulose acetate and cellulose acetate. The solvents of cellulose acetate are methyl, butyl, and ethyl acetates. The solvents of cellulose acetate are acetone, methyl acetate, methylethylacetone (depending on the solvent power on its control of acetone), and ethyl formate.

(c) **The Dyes or "Tinters."**—The liquids used as dyes and tinters for cellulose acetate do not have quite as much dyeing power. They are used to help develop the colors of the dope mixture. They evaporate quickly from the cellulose acetate mixture. Common dyes for both acetate and nitrate dopes are benzid, ethyl alcohol, and methyl alcohol. Benzid in excess has some effect on the film, making it brittle.

(d) **Pigments, called sometimes "Tinters" and "High Metal."**—These are solutions of cellulose acetate and cellulose acetate of comparatively high boiling points—alcohols and acetone which evaporate very slowly from the film and render it pliable and to some extent elastic. The plasters also help to penetrate the cellulose acetate by mechanical action. Cellulose acetate or nitrate which has been penetrated can be measured. Examples of plasters for cellulose acetate are bismuth stearate, dibutyl phthalate, benzyl benzoate, benzyl acetate, and trinitro. For cellulose acetate dope cellulose acetate is commonly used as a nonsolvent softener. Triphosphite is occasionally used in dopes as a softener. Urea is sometimes added as an antiseptic to automatically neutralize small amounts of acid sometimes found in dopes or developed when the dope film is acted on by light.

## Functions of Dopes

The dopes has two essential functions:

(a) **Stripping.**—A dope must shrink so that the texture of the dope-coated fabric is satisfactory for flying. The texture should also remain fairly constant under various weather conditions.

(b) **Protectives.**—The dope film must act as a protective covering for the fabric in order to prevent the rapid degradation due to weathering. A clear film of either cellulose acetate or cellulose nitrate is transparent to sunlight, which is the chief factor in the deterioration of painted fabrics.

To prevent this excessive deterioration, an opaque protective coating on top of the clear dope film is of the utmost importance. The opaque film also aids in decreasing the permeability of the dope film to water, as both the acetate and nitrate clear dopes are permeable to water, the acetate to a greater extent than the nitrate.

The dope film also has a few secondary effects in that it causes the paint to take more firmly and gives the paint better adhesion slightly, the latter depending on a certain extent on the manner of penetration of the dope into the fabric. Dope films also give a smooth surface to the surface and reduce side friction.

## Pigmented Protective Coverings

The opaque coatings which are used are pigments mixed

in all varieties and designated varnishes, or pigments mixed with nitrate dope and designated pigmented dopes.

The varnishes or the varnishes (varnishes) are much slower driers than the dopes type. Further, it is more difficult to get a pigmented or varnishes which dries with a flat surface, which is highly desirable for military use, owing to the absence of flatness from the reflection of the sun on the wings while the airplane is in the air. For these two reasons, the use of pigmented protective coverings of the dope type rather than the varnish type is strongly recommended.

The order of the pigmented protective covering to be used on the aircraft is as follows: 1. Cellulose acetate. 2. Latexes to be applied in the same manner as that comprising the protective covering. 3. Colors other than blacks are desired for the purpose of camouflage or for the purpose of making protective training airplanes more visible to help avoid collision, or if a special color is desired for any other special purpose, then colors can be furnished in an approved pigmented protective covering.

The Air Service pigmented nitrate dopes in the black color is known as No. 506 and should be ordered as such. It can also be obtained in the standard red, white and blue insignia colors.

## Application of Pigmented Protective Covering

It has been demonstrated repeatedly that the life of the dopes depends on the lasting power of the dope, and no protective covering. A poor dope will applied or a good dope will be applied will apparently shorten the life of an airplane covering.

## Drying Conditions

Drying conditions on the field, whether in the nose of the aircraft or in a flying field, are generally far from ideal. The principal condition which causes drying trouble is high relative humidity. This causes whitening or "bleeding," which, in bad cases, that proper solutions of the dopes to the fibers with the film and the whitening process of the covering is extremely dangerous. Dope should be dried as quickly as possible as the days when the humidity is low or below 70 per cent.

If an enclosed building is available for drying, the relative humidity may be lowered by increasing the temperature. This, however, lowers the viscosity of the dope, and hence increases the covering power to some extent. If the temperature is increased greatly, the cellulose acetate dope temperature (75 degrees F.) should be reduced to the maximum that will not damage the weight of dope film in left on the fabric after drying. This should be from 3 to 2.75 ounces per square yard. If the weight is less, another coat of dope should be added. If a dope contains a fair amount of high-boiling, or plasters, it will hold less readily than one containing none of these constituents.

## Application

The first coat of dope should be a very light coat and should be brushed on, with little tension to obtain penetration. Subsequent coats should be brushed on in the usual manner for applying varnish and similar materials.

## Time of Drying

Under field conditions, time of drying can not be cut down to much under 16 to 45 min., per coat, depending on the temperature. In any case, a coat of dope ought not to be applied until the coat before is bone dry. In instances where coats at temperatures of 110 to 115 deg. Fahr. are use this time of drying can be reduced.

## Number of Coats

The number of coats is not so much important as the thickness. The texture should be sufficient to give a decided

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of ring when struck with the knuckle. The weight of the film deposited should not exceed 2.75 oz. per square yard. This amount of coating is sufficient that the proper pigmented coverings will give a surface of satisfactory texture. Four coats of acetate dope should give this weight.

## Application of Pigmented Protective Covering

At least one hour should be given the dope to dry before the pigmented protective covering is put on. If enamel is used, one coat applied by brush in sufficient of the Air Service Pigmented Dope No. 506 is used, two coats will probably be necessary, as the covering power by brush or spray gun of this material is low. The pigmented protective covering must not be applied to the dope film. This pigmented protective covering does in about twelve hours, while only two or three hours are necessary for the drying of No. 506.

Both materials must be thoroughly stirred before they are poured into the small cans carried by the workers. This thorough mixing is most important, for the pigments have a tendency to settle out the bottom of the container. If not stirred thoroughly, the drying power will be irregular and the surface streaked and spottish.

At regular depots and fields where compressed air is available the use of the spray gun for the application of pigmented dopes is recommended. A spray gun similar to the one made by the De Vilbiss Manufacturing Co., Toledo, Ohio, type M, is very satisfactory. This gun operates on 80 lb. air pressure. The spray is kept in a constant nozzle about 15 lb. air pressure. The pressure varies, however, with the viscosity of the dope and the thickness of the coat.

## Dope Coat, Brush, Etc.

Dope cans of the approved "hicken feed" type should be used when they are procurable. In any case dope cans must not be left uncovered. Dope cans should not contain more than 50 to 65 min. supply of dope; otherwise evaporation of solvent and consequent change in viscosity and loss of material may be serious. These cans must not be set on the fabric or the surface of the wing.

Buckets should be about 4 in. x 10 width and fairly stiff.

Buckets must be stirred in order to obtain the best results. The following cleaning solutions are satisfactory: Cellulose acetate 1 part benzid, 1 part methyl acetate. Cellulose acetate, 1 part benzid, 2 parts acetone.

The receptacles in which the dopes are stored should be kept covered when in use in order to avoid evaporation of solvent. The barrels will not be lagged by allowing them to stand in the solutions while not in use.

## Penetration of Dope Resins

Dope resins should be as well ventilated as is practicable considering the necessity of keeping temperature and humidity conditions as near normal as possible. No solvent when dopes are large amounts used in dope, but frost irrigation and some evaporation may follow prolonged exposure to the forms. Hence resins should not be kept more than two hours exposure to the dope room. They should then be given a half hour on the open air. Man should not dope before breakfast or on an entirely empty stomach.

## Storage

On no account should anything be allowed in the dope room. Not only are dopes extremely inflammable, but their vapors form highly explosive mixtures with air.

## Coat

The dope room should be kept as clean as possible. Dust and dirt must be kept off the fabrics to be dipped. Dope dryings, which by careful application and handling can be reduced to a minimum, should be scraped from the floor and collected, with the possibility in mind of reclamation of the cellulose acetate or cellulose nitrate. Where both cellulose acetate dopes and cellulose nitrate dopes are being used in the same room this is not so important.

## Covering Power of Clear and Pigmented Dopes

It has been found in practice that when four coats of clear dopes are applied to fabric-covered surfaces that the covering power will average 1 gallon to 25 square feet of surface. The

covering power of Air Service Pigmented Dope No. 506 is 1 gallon to 25 square feet for two coats.

## Patching

Never patch over the pigmented protective covering. This must always be removed before the patch is applied. If the pigmented protective coating is smaller to Air Service Pigmented Dope No. 506, it may be removed without harming the dope film by a dilute solution of 2 parts methyl acetate to 1 part benzid. Similarly, enamel, i.e., a pigmented varnish, may be removed by methyl alcohol or benzid, or a mixture. Do not use soap as a remover for pigmented protective coatings.

After the pigmented protective covering is removed around the hole or tear, the surface is washed with the above solution of benzid or methyl acetate (if the surface is coated with soap), or a dilute solution of acetone or methyl acetate (if an acetate dope has been used), or the following preparation: 1 part methyl ethyl ketone, 8 parts methyl acetate, 2 parts benzid.

The dope and pigmented protective covering removers are applied in the same way, i.e., the removing solution is brushed into the surface with a short, stiff brush. Excess of the solution is removed by vigorous washing with a piece of waste or strong wire mesh. The time taken on the coverings or the dopes is the same as the time taken on the patches.

After the pigmented protective covering and the dope have been removed, the hole or tear is cleaned off in a similar way with benzid, etc. A small patch of the same fabric on the wing (if possible), with the edges frayed, is draped over the wound, the dope being applied both over and under the patch. Patch should be applied, whenever possible, with the same dope as, either acetate or nitrate, as that with which the material was doped. This is important, as otherwise poor adhesion may result.

The patch and this first layer of dope are allowed to dry, and then one or more coats applied on top in the nose section, with the dope and the protection. When thoroughly dry, the patch is removed by a coat of pigmented protective covering.

## Oil Spots

Glossy oil or grease spots on the fabric before dipping may be removed by the use of benzid. The spot is rubbed gently with a piece of clean waste, soaked in benzid and let dry very thoroughly before dipping. If the oil spot is left untreated, the dope is liable to bubble or blanch at this point. Oil spots on the fabric before dipping are not necessary and should be avoided. Occasional spots may be removed as above.

## Factory Marks on Airplanes and Airplane Parts

To determine what dopes and what pigmented protective coverings were used in finishing a doped part in the factory, it is necessary to consult the factory markings. These will be found in general on the under side of the aluminum (more specifically on the right-hand side of fuselage surfaces, on the rear-most band of rubber surface near the pilot's seat, and on fuselage at the right-hand side near the tail where it joins the fuselage assembly).

In the factory markings scheme the number-letter groups (which are separated by dashes) indicate the name of the factory or flying field making or repairing the part.

The second group of numbers and letters indicates: First, the formula of the dope (indicated by the key number placed first); then "P" indicating that the number-letter group refers to dope; finally, a figure indicating the number of coats of dope.

The third group of numbers and letters indicates: First, the pigmented protective covering used (indicated by the key number placed first); then "PV" if a pigmented varnish (varnish) was used; or "PD" if a pigmented nitrate dope was used (A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P, Q, R, S, T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z); finally, a figure indicating the number of coats of the pigmented protective covering.

The fourth number-group is the date of the application of the pigmented covering expressed in the usual way (month-day-year).

For example: x-340-127PDG-6-28-18 means: This plane was

dropped at 3½ tons; 5 coats of No. 10 dope were used; the surface was finished with 2 coats of pigmented protective varnish; numbers are given in Engineering Division Information Circular No. 50, issued March 21, 1918. This circular can be obtained from the office of the Chief of Air Service, Washington, D. C.

### Aerial Activity in Japan

The following information is from a report of A. E. Bryan, Controller of Civil Aviation, U. S. Department of Commerce:

The Aeromaritime Association is eliminating a more active interest in airmen and their use for commercial purposes. The Government authorities are also paying for more attention to this field than formerly, and a larger portion of the interests held this year by the War Department will be used to carry out the year's proposed operations and expansions.

About a year ago a party of forty French experts came out to Japan to study the possibilities of airmen for the purpose of attacking Japanese air pilots. These Frenchmen were all experienced and did much to stimulate this branch of Japan's military operations. It is now known that a party of British naval air pilots will arrive shortly to give instructions to the Imperial Japanese Air Service. Nine British commercial experts from the Vickers-Armstrong works arrived in this country last week to superintend the erection of what will be the first big-scale airplane factory in Japan, to be built at Nagoya by the Mitsubishi interests.

### Air Mail Service Being Developed

The question of opening an air mail service by the Department of Communications has been considered and it has been finally decided to postpone the same until such time as the war between Turkey and Russia is over. The cost of this service will probably be based on the report of a Mr. Gruyard, who was sent abroad to study similar organizations in Europe and America. Other proposed routes will be one to Kyushu in the south and Amakiri in the north.

The Imperial Aviation Society is arranging a nonstop flight between Osaka and Tokyo in August. The cost will be a guarantee of 10,000 for the water and mail-carrying flight plus 500 for each hour of flying time, when payment according to you 15,000 will be given. This society is also arranging a transoceanic flight between Fukashima and Shanghai, to be held next October, and is offering \$25,000 and \$30,000 as the first and second prizes respectively. There is also under consideration the establishment of a mail service by the Chinese government between Peking and Canton, a distance of 900 miles.

The remaining paper *Chosu* states that a Mr. Ryukan Tachibana and Takechi Hashimoto are about to establish a company with capital of \$10,000,000 for the purpose of opening a passenger service between Osaka and Tokyo. Other private companies of a similar nature have been called off, and negotiations are now being drafted by the Japanese government with the Japanese government, the districts where flights are forbidden, provincial street flying, etc., etc. All pilots and airplanes must be licensed according to these new regulations.

### Airplane Construction in Japan

Up to the present no planes of any account have been built in Japan. Since the Imperial Arsenal and several small plants have been unable to manufacture important parts, local firms have lacked the proper financial support to make them pay. One large shipbuilding firm in Kobe and another large concern in Tokyo have been erecting airplanes as a sideline, but only on a limited scale.

Most of the machines in the present time are of European origin. The French institution of the Société des Aéronautiques Francaise, which they left here some years ago, has a number of French aircraft, and they have recently ordered a number of the important British makes have representations in Tokyo who have made additions to the Japanese aeronautics. Several airplanes arrived recently from Germany, under the terms of the Versailles Treaty, and these will be used for experimental purposes.

The aeronautics are, however, beginning to build airplanes in the Imperial Arsenal at Tokyo—up to the present it is said that the engines are being imported from abroad.

### Seaplanes to Map Mississippi Delta

In connection with the War Department's photographic mapping of the Delta of the Mississippi River, problems arose, because of the presence of numerous islands in the river to be photographed, which could not be crossed by land. Consequently, the Secretary of War requested the Navy Department to take strips of mapping photographs as early back of the North and Southwest Passes of the Mississippi to cover the many areas of soft bank in the limit of their extent up to two miles from the river. This work is necessary in connection with the engineering projects of the Army District Engineers, and is of considerable importance in the river and harbor improvement schemes at the mouth of the Mississippi.

The mapping could not be performed by the Army Air Service, principally due to the lack of landing fields in the vicinity. But while it has no aviation facilities in the Delta, the Army is to supply the gasoline and oil for the mapping planes and instruments for the crews.

Work on the project will start immediately. Seaplanes from the U. S. Naval Air Station at Pensacola will conduct the mapping work, and after finishing the photographic flights requested by the Army, will obtain additional pictures for the Coast and Geodetic Survey, in order to complete the maps which that bureau has under way of the Gulf Coast. It is estimated that 30 mapping strips transverse areas from the air, many thousands of square miles will be covered over the old methods of surveying, maps and money.

This work not only solves the operational difficulties existing between the Army and Naval Aviation, but also the close cooperation between Naval Aviation and Coast and Geodetic Survey, thus Delta mapping being only one of many projects of the same kind which the Navy has undertaken for both departments.

### Served by Airplanes

Perhaps for the first time airplanes were used on seacrafts of any size during the war. The British Admiralty, in command of American and Chilean ships, carried the destruction of neutral shipping and caused great loss of life. Several squadrons rendered invaluable assistance in exploring the vast devastated area where all signs of civilization had been destroyed.

The air force cooperated with the Red Cross in transporting doctors, as well as food and medical supplies in places which could not otherwise have been reached for a long time. This example of resourceful application of the principles of aeronautics to offense and protection is commendable. It demonstrates that the airplane, after having been a powerful weapon of destruction, can be the means of bringing Red Cross succor with great speed to the scene of the disaster otherwise inaccessible, and suggests the hope of permanency in Red Cross cooperation with Government aviation orders.

### S.V.A. Sales Increase

The Aero Import Corp. of 1539 Broadway, report the following sales:

One two-place airplane to William A. Lassell, anational tennis champion; three S.V.A. two-place machines to Gates Morris Co., Baldwin City, Kas.; four two-place machines to Humpreys Airplane Co., Decatur, Ill., and the same concern in New England for a three-seater.

G. W. Purles, who recently made a remarkable flight with a Lippisch-Staudinger machine from LaGuardia, N. Y., to Mexico City, has placed an order for one six-place Ansaldo Lambda. Mr. Ralph C. Duggan Co., of Chicago, has also ordered one six-place Ansaldo Lambda, and are negotiating for two more.

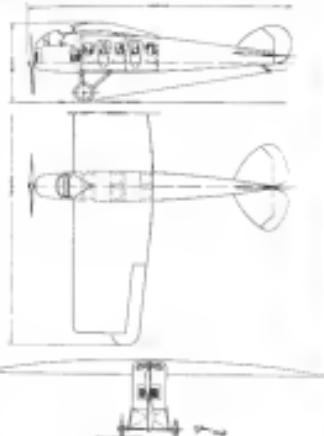
The Aero Import Co. has also arranged to ship an assignment to their western distributorships plane for every Ansaldo airplane flying west of the Mississippi River.

## Albatros 8-Seater Cabin Monoplane

By Erik Hildebrand

The Albatros 8-seater cabin monoplane which is illustrated herewith is the first specially designed commercial aircraft of the Albatros Co., of Berlin, the well known German firm which during the war produced many types of observation and pursuit machines for the German air force.

At first sight the Albatros 8-seater shows a considerable resemblance to the Albatros 6-seater monoplane which was described in the Dec. 6, 1920, issue of *Aerateur* and *Aeronautique*.



OUTLINE DRAWINGS OF THE ALBATROS 8-SEATER CABIN MONOPLANE

**JOURNAL.** The general layout—cabin-fuselage monoplane wings set on underslung fuselage accommodates the passengers in a cabin which the pilot seated at front—see the same in the two types, but the Albatros 8-seater introduces a number of refinements and has in general more pleasing lines than the 6-seater.

It is rather significant that the Albatros Co. should put into the Fokker Co. design for its post-war products the cabin monoplane, although both firms built mainly biplane designs.

The Albatros 8-seater has thick, 3-ply curved wings which taper toward the tips in both chord and depth, and are fitted with balanced ailerons. The wings are of one piece, internally braced, and are fastened directly onto the top longitudinal spars of the fuselage. The surface area is 220 sq. ft. The span is 61 ft. The area above closed 19 ft. 6 in.

The tail unit is a generally braced, the stabilizer and the rudder are braced, upper, lower, while elevator and rudder have frames of diamond trussing.

The passenger cabin, seating six persons, is fitted just below the wings. Two doors on either side afford the passengers

easy access and egress. The pilot's cockpit, seating two, is in front of the cabin, on top of the engine. This arrangement has the advantage of enabling the pilot to have an excellent view downward and also to keep the weight more evenly massed. The overall length, from propeller hub to the center edge, is 34 ft. 3 in. and the overall height is 13 ft. 6 in. The wing span is 61 ft. 6 in. and the wing chord is 6 ft. 6 in. and 616 x 125 mm. max. The seats are rubber-covered.

The power plant may consist of either the 170 hp. Mercedes B.IIIa, the 195 hp. B.IIIW, or the 200 hp. B.III engines. In such case sufficient fuel is carried for a flight of three hours with full load. As the Benz engine is about



ALBATROS 8-SEATER CABIN MONOPLANE LANDING

350 lb. heavier than either the Mercedes or the B.IIIW, it is expected, the power loading of the machine is accordingly higher. The weight and the performances of the Albatros 8-seater as fitted with the three different engines are given by the manufacturer as follows:

	Mercedes	B.IIIW	Benz
Weight empty	1,160 lb.	1,400 lb.	1,410 lb.
Pilot Steel	514 lb.	522 lb.	530 lb.
Pilot Cloth	514 lb.	522 lb.	530 lb.
Passenger load	1,362 lb.	1,362 lb.	1,362 lb.
Passenger load + 1000 lb.	1,462 lb.	1,502 lb.	1,512 lb.
Passenger load + 2000 lb.	1,562 lb.	1,602 lb.	1,612 lb.
Passenger load + 3000 lb.	1,662 lb.	1,702 lb.	1,712 lb.
Passenger load + 4000 lb.	1,762 lb.	1,802 lb.	1,812 lb.
Passenger load + 5000 lb.	1,862 lb.	1,902 lb.	1,912 lb.
Passenger load + 6000 lb.	1,962 lb.	2,002 lb.	2,012 lb.
Passenger load + 7000 lb.	2,062 lb.	2,102 lb.	2,112 lb.
Passenger load + 8000 lb.	2,162 lb.	2,202 lb.	2,212 lb.
Passenger load + 9000 lb.	2,262 lb.	2,302 lb.	2,312 lb.
Passenger load + 10000 lb.	2,362 lb.	2,402 lb.	2,412 lb.
Passenger load + 11000 lb.	2,462 lb.	2,502 lb.	2,512 lb.
Passenger load + 12000 lb.	2,562 lb.	2,602 lb.	2,612 lb.
Passenger load + 13000 lb.	2,662 lb.	2,702 lb.	2,712 lb.
Passenger load + 14000 lb.	2,762 lb.	2,802 lb.	2,812 lb.
Passenger load + 15000 lb.	2,862 lb.	2,902 lb.	2,912 lb.
Passenger load + 16000 lb.	2,962 lb.	3,002 lb.	3,012 lb.
Passenger load + 17000 lb.	3,062 lb.	3,102 lb.	3,112 lb.
Passenger load + 18000 lb.	3,162 lb.	3,202 lb.	3,212 lb.
Passenger load + 19000 lb.	3,262 lb.	3,302 lb.	3,312 lb.
Passenger load + 20000 lb.	3,362 lb.	3,402 lb.	3,412 lb.
Passenger load + 21000 lb.	3,462 lb.	3,502 lb.	3,512 lb.
Passenger load + 22000 lb.	3,562 lb.	3,602 lb.	3,612 lb.
Passenger load + 23000 lb.	3,662 lb.	3,702 lb.	3,712 lb.
Passenger load + 24000 lb.	3,762 lb.	3,802 lb.	3,812 lb.
Passenger load + 25000 lb.	3,862 lb.	3,902 lb.	3,912 lb.
Passenger load + 26000 lb.	3,962 lb.	4,002 lb.	4,012 lb.
Passenger load + 27000 lb.	4,062 lb.	4,102 lb.	4,112 lb.
Passenger load + 28000 lb.	4,162 lb.	4,202 lb.	4,212 lb.
Passenger load + 29000 lb.	4,262 lb.	4,302 lb.	4,312 lb.
Passenger load + 30000 lb.	4,362 lb.	4,402 lb.	4,412 lb.
Passenger load + 31000 lb.	4,462 lb.	4,502 lb.	4,512 lb.
Passenger load + 32000 lb.	4,562 lb.	4,602 lb.	4,612 lb.
Passenger load + 33000 lb.	4,662 lb.	4,702 lb.	4,712 lb.
Passenger load + 34000 lb.	4,762 lb.	4,802 lb.	4,812 lb.
Passenger load + 35000 lb.	4,862 lb.	4,902 lb.	4,912 lb.
Passenger load + 36000 lb.	4,962 lb.	5,002 lb.	5,012 lb.
Passenger load + 37000 lb.	5,062 lb.	5,102 lb.	5,112 lb.
Passenger load + 38000 lb.	5,162 lb.	5,202 lb.	5,212 lb.
Passenger load + 39000 lb.	5,262 lb.	5,302 lb.	5,312 lb.
Passenger load + 40000 lb.	5,362 lb.	5,402 lb.	5,412 lb.
Passenger load + 41000 lb.	5,462 lb.	5,502 lb.	5,512 lb.
Passenger load + 42000 lb.	5,562 lb.	5,602 lb.	5,612 lb.
Passenger load + 43000 lb.	5,662 lb.	5,702 lb.	5,712 lb.
Passenger load + 44000 lb.	5,762 lb.	5,802 lb.	5,812 lb.
Passenger load + 45000 lb.	5,862 lb.	5,902 lb.	5,912 lb.
Passenger load + 46000 lb.	5,962 lb.	6,002 lb.	6,012 lb.
Passenger load + 47000 lb.	6,062 lb.	6,102 lb.	6,112 lb.
Passenger load + 48000 lb.	6,162 lb.	6,202 lb.	6,212 lb.
Passenger load + 49000 lb.	6,262 lb.	6,302 lb.	6,312 lb.
Passenger load + 50000 lb.	6,362 lb.	6,402 lb.	6,412 lb.
Passenger load + 51000 lb.	6,462 lb.	6,502 lb.	6,512 lb.
Passenger load + 52000 lb.	6,562 lb.	6,602 lb.	6,612 lb.
Passenger load + 53000 lb.	6,662 lb.	6,702 lb.	6,712 lb.
Passenger load + 54000 lb.	6,762 lb.	6,802 lb.	6,812 lb.
Passenger load + 55000 lb.	6,862 lb.	6,902 lb.	6,912 lb.
Passenger load + 56000 lb.	6,962 lb.	7,002 lb.	7,012 lb.
Passenger load + 57000 lb.	7,062 lb.	7,102 lb.	7,112 lb.
Passenger load + 58000 lb.	7,162 lb.	7,202 lb.	7,212 lb.
Passenger load + 59000 lb.	7,262 lb.	7,302 lb.	7,312 lb.
Passenger load + 60000 lb.	7,362 lb.	7,402 lb.	7,412 lb.
Passenger load + 61000 lb.	7,462 lb.	7,502 lb.	7,512 lb.
Passenger load + 62000 lb.	7,562 lb.	7,602 lb.	7,612 lb.
Passenger load + 63000 lb.	7,662 lb.	7,702 lb.	7,712 lb.
Passenger load + 64000 lb.	7,762 lb.	7,802 lb.	7,812 lb.
Passenger load + 65000 lb.	7,862 lb.	7,902 lb.	7,912 lb.
Passenger load + 66000 lb.	7,962 lb.	8,002 lb.	8,012 lb.
Passenger load + 67000 lb.	8,062 lb.	8,102 lb.	8,112 lb.
Passenger load + 68000 lb.	8,162 lb.	8,202 lb.	8,212 lb.
Passenger load + 69000 lb.	8,262 lb.	8,302 lb.	8,312 lb.
Passenger load + 70000 lb.	8,362 lb.	8,402 lb.	8,412 lb.
Passenger load + 71000 lb.	8,462 lb.	8,502 lb.	8,512 lb.
Passenger load + 72000 lb.	8,562 lb.	8,602 lb.	8,612 lb.
Passenger load + 73000 lb.	8,662 lb.	8,702 lb.	8,712 lb.
Passenger load + 74000 lb.	8,762 lb.	8,802 lb.	8,812 lb.
Passenger load + 75000 lb.	8,862 lb.	8,902 lb.	8,912 lb.
Passenger load + 76000 lb.	8,962 lb.	9,002 lb.	9,012 lb.
Passenger load + 77000 lb.	9,062 lb.	9,102 lb.	9,112 lb.
Passenger load + 78000 lb.	9,162 lb.	9,202 lb.	9,212 lb.
Passenger load + 79000 lb.	9,262 lb.	9,302 lb.	9,312 lb.
Passenger load + 80000 lb.	9,362 lb.	9,402 lb.	9,412 lb.
Passenger load + 81000 lb.	9,462 lb.	9,502 lb.	9,512 lb.
Passenger load + 82000 lb.	9,562 lb.	9,602 lb.	9,612 lb.
Passenger load + 83000 lb.	9,662 lb.	9,702 lb.	9,712 lb.
Passenger load + 84000 lb.	9,762 lb.	9,802 lb.	9,812 lb.
Passenger load + 85000 lb.	9,862 lb.	9,902 lb.	9,912 lb.
Passenger load + 86000 lb.	9,962 lb.	10,002 lb.	10,012 lb.
Passenger load + 87000 lb.	10,062 lb.	10,102 lb.	10,112 lb.
Passenger load + 88000 lb.	10,162 lb.	10,202 lb.	10,212 lb.
Passenger load + 89000 lb.	10,262 lb.	10,302 lb.	10,312 lb.
Passenger load + 90000 lb.	10,362 lb.	10,402 lb.	10,412 lb.
Passenger load + 91000 lb.	10,462 lb.	10,502 lb.	10,512 lb.
Passenger load + 92000 lb.	10,562 lb.	10,602 lb.	10,612 lb.
Passenger load + 93000 lb.	10,662 lb.	10,702 lb.	10,712 lb.
Passenger load + 94000 lb.	10,762 lb.	10,802 lb.	10,812 lb.
Passenger load + 95000 lb.	10,862 lb.	10,902 lb.	10,912 lb.
Passenger load + 96000 lb.	10,962 lb.	11,002 lb.	11,012 lb.
Passenger load + 97000 lb.	11,062 lb.	11,102 lb.	11,112 lb.
Passenger load + 98000 lb.	11,162 lb.	11,202 lb.	11,212 lb.
Passenger load + 99000 lb.	11,262 lb.	11,302 lb.	11,312 lb.
Passenger load + 100000 lb.	11,362 lb.	11,402 lb.	11,412 lb.

In the figures given as useful load the weight of the pilot, the co-pilot and the six passengers is assumed to be 70 kg. each.

The take-off and landing runs of the machine are approximately 2000 ft.

### French Woman Aviator Crosses the Andes

Miss Adrienne Rolland, a French aviator, on April 1, last, flew across the Andes mountains from Mendoza, Argentina, to Chile. Mademoiselle Rolland flew a Caudron "Fémina" equipped with an 80 hp rotary engine. She is the first woman to have crossed the Andes by aircraft.

April 15, 1921.

# The Need of a Bureau of Naval Aeronautics

Experience since the War has proved that Naval Aviation is as important to the Navy, that it will constantly expand and its position will constantly increase, and, in fact, already have increased to a point where the present organization in the Department for handling aeronautical sections is inadequate for the duties imposed. The situation can best be arrived at by the organization within the Navy of a Bureau of Aeronautics.

## To Study on Discrepancies

At the present time the Director of Naval Aviation is the Senior member of the Aviation Section of the Planning Division of Naval Operations. The Director of Naval Aviation has no authority, according to the present organization of the Navy Department, to direct, control, and manage his bureau. He is compelled in this capacity to represent the representation extended by the different bureaus who have disregarded the strict letter of the law and have given sanction in spite of the written expression.

As a matter of fact, the Director of Naval Aviation has no administrative power whatever. When he wants to transfer men and officers from place to place he must make his request with transfers to the Bureau of Navigation. When he wants to have his men sent to another bureau he must go through the Bureau of Personnel and Supply. When he wants a motor, a request must be made to the Bureau of Engineering. When he wants a certain type of aircraft gas he must make a request to the Bureau of Ordnance, and it must be remembered that he cannot make his requests direct to the bureaus, but must go through the Chief of Naval Operations. In particular, there is a military aeronautics section which controls practically everything, having a number of responsible officers, but having no authority of its own. The Director of Naval Aviation must be elected with authority to order what he needs.

When war planes are being supplied it is necessary to request personnel information from one place, material information from another place, statistical information from another, and historical information from still another. All this information should be at hand for making a general grant to the waste of time required to each request from one bureau to another. The only information that other cannot be properly supplied, Naval Aviation is seriously handicapped under this scheme.

The need of a Bureau of Aeronautics in the Navy, which is purely a matter of internal departmental organization, is understood by everyone concerned and has the approval of the entire Navy, from the highest officer down.

In submitting a bill for the establishment of a Bureau of Aeronautics, Congressmen Meeks made the following statement:

"This bill has the unanimous support of the Committee of Naval Affairs, who, after hearings and discussion, strongly urge its adoption as being necessary for the proper development of naval aviation."

"The bill also has the endorsement of the National Advisory Committee on Aviation, the Secretary of the Navy, the Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral Clegg, an whom, after aviation is now established; the Chief of the Bureau of Construction, Admiral Taylor, whose bureau has to do with the design of aircraft, the Director of Naval Aviation, and others who have had experience with aviation and whose opinions are valuable."

## A Parallel in the Army Organization

"The need for such an establishment in the War Department was recognized by the Military Committee of both the House and the Senate, and by Congress as well, in the act passed last spring whereby there was created an Air Service as an independent arm of the Military Establishment. The same arguments that were used for the creation of the Army Air Service apply with equal force to the establishment of the naval air service."

"The committee feels that as under this the branch of the

moral service may function reasonably and properly and provide the maximum of efficiency this law is urgently needed for the present progress."

"The purpose of this bill is to concentrate under one head the aviation activities now scattered through the Navy Department, to centralize in one bureau the work now carried on in several, and by coordination under one authority is effect an economy of energy and control, deployment of supplies,

"A more rapid development of aeroplane activity, and attend upon such development is the usual large amount of scientific and administrative details. There are new regulations to make covering naval aviation. There are new policies to lay down and these policies must change from time to time as the scope of aviation develops. There is much information and knowledge to be given to all bureaus. There is liaison to form between the Army and Navy and with civil aviation."

"The importance of aviation as an effective military arm and the value of which it is difficult to overestimate, warrants in the judgment of the committee, the need of such a bureau in organization to the department bureaus already at existence."

## Present System Is Unworkable

"The Director of Naval Aviation has no administrative or executive power whatever. He is simply the senior member of the aviation section of the planning division of the Office of Naval Operations. The Chief of Naval Operations is charged with the administration of aviation, and he possesses but has no power over details. The man in command of aircraft is the Chief of Staff. But that should be the case in this office, not only is responsible for general naval data handed to those performed by the Chief of Staff of the Air Corps but he is, in addition, charged with responsibility for all war operations."

"The Director of Naval Aviation, being simply head of a subsection of the Planning Division, has power and responsibility to be granted him in the direction of naval aviation plans. The Director of Naval Aviation, however, of the inadequacy of the present naval organization as regards a new arm, he is indirectly charged with responsibility for all aviation, but he is not authority and no proper machinery with which to work."

"A logical bureau with a definite impression that all power the coordination of the requested work concerning aviation would go to aviation the plan to which all other bureaus in the Navy should be submitted. This is the only way that the system should be handled under the bureau of aviation to avoid the delays and misunderstandings caused through the great effort necessary to obtain concerted action in aviation affairs. The formation of a new bureau would require only a small interdepartmental change, giving the Director of Naval Aviation administrative and executive functions, and legitimate responsibility for this new arm."

## Object of the Bureau of Naval Aviation

"Here are briefly some of the objects sought to be accomplished by the creation of this bureau:

"(a) To bring into direct and close physical contact our relationship the aeronautical office of the Navy Department now charged with organization of aviation by the Bureau of Construction, Admiral Taylor, whose bureau has to do with the design of aircraft, the Director of Naval Aviation, and others who have had experience with aviation and whose opinions are valuable."

"(b) To create an office to which the Chief of Operations may turn for cognizance and action in aeronautical matters.

"(c) To create a centralized office which can deal with all departments of the Government in aeronautics and with all agencies of naval administration.

"(d) To reduce the expenditure of funds under the control of one responsible authority, thereby simplifying and streamlining supply, construction, and supply."

"(e) To combine control of experimental work, research,

tests and field experiments are conducted so that development of the various arms of aviation go hand in hand and are administered from a central controlling authority."

"(f) To simplify and decrease correspondence, both in the Navy Department and with the six stations, thereby facilitating the problem of supply at the stations and their auxiliary stations."

"At the present time specifications and construction of aircraft are under the Bureau of Construction; motors and radio apparatus under the Bureau of Engineering; testing of personnel under the Bureau of Personnel; and training of aviators under the Bureau of Ordnance. It is manifestly impossible for one office properly to supervise wireless activities as long as each of its many parts are separated in the various bureaus, and there is no better where the authority is situated. The importance of aviation is nothing more valuable than the resonance on the part of the student that practically all knowledge has been laid down in written books and that this can be obtained by the student by a little personal application. In other words, the student will gain a thorough education in the subject, but will not gain a practical knowledge of it and so that the student often after coming from the course will continue applying old books, reports, etc., published on aviation and the sciences involved in aviation."

"It is desired to develop personal individual and mental confidence in this school to such a point that practically no motivation will be required. This is based on the assumption that an officer, who has been educated by the school, will be much more valuable to the student than a teacher or an officer as much more valuable to the student than a teacher. The fact is more valuable to the student than a teacher, as it is learned by the fact that it has had to be accomplished without assistance. On the average hand and by far of the greater number, mechanics, mechanics developed themselves into great men toward reaching a goal and improving his education. There certainly is nothing more valuable than the resonance on the part of the student that practically all knowledge has been laid down in written books and that this can be obtained by the student by a little personal application. In other words, the student will gain a thorough education in the subject, but will continue applying old books, reports, etc., published on aviation and the sciences involved in aviation."

## The Future of Technical Training

"It is hoped that the student will get a grasp of view and a sufficient knowledge to allow them to speak the language of engineering and that a deep interest in mechanical matters will be instilled in them which will result in their referring to these stations with an educational foundation and an interest in technical matters which will cause them to continue

## Air Service Engineering School Minimum Requirements for Admission

In order to make efficient use of the time which the popular course in the Air Service Engineering School, Dayton, Ohio, is allotted, the following are the minimum requirements of previous training:

1. Rating as Airplane Pilot.
2. Technical and educational requirements. One of the following:
  - a. Graduate of Military or Naval Academy.
  - b. Graduate of recognized technical college.
  - c. A thorough High School education and well versed in the fundamental sciences to the degree outlined below and exceptional experience along lines of special importance to the Air Service.
3. Good health, with the equivalent of which the candidate should be free from:

### THE CALCULATOR

Elementary college chemistry  
College Chemistry by Alexander Smith

- PHYSICS
1. Drift
- All topics having a bearing on aerodynamics engineering in aviation are included, for instance, Thermodynamics, electricity, etc.

### THEORETICAL MECHANICS

Theory and Practice of Mechanics by Sklansky

The candidate need only be able to understand any part of this test and understand it.

### Course of Instruction at Engineering School and Requirements

The explanatory method of instruction in the Air Service Engineering School is one wherein this permits an easier to remember the fact that necessary knowledge is available in all bureaus in all areas of aviation ability who are in work for us, and that practically all fundamental information can be found within in existing books or documents. Facilities for instruction are unusually complete. In general, the experiments of the Engineering Division are available carry out the intermediate calculations, as well as, with the problems of the course. In addition, the student is provided at the school with a set of instructions, a list of references and a number of problems with methods explained wherever possible. It is impossible to make experts out of students in any one subject, but the idea is to, in fact, across the student interested in engineering aspects as far as possible, and the majority of each student's time, when the time and most interest of the student, these subjects can be found, to effect an understanding of these engineering problems in aeronautics. It is hoped in this course to develop any latent ability in a student for some phase of engineering with a view to a possible specialization along that line in the future, with a general all-around education in the Service. The operation of the school has been limited to date to both the Engineering Division and the student officers themselves through the exchange of ideas, and it affords a means to a common understanding between the technical and the service organizations.

The course is not a competitive course. A reasonable application and a good honest effort on the part of a student to get all he can out of the course is the requirement. There is no competition in the course.

It should be remembered that the course is designed to be of general use to air officers and not for officers who desire to specialize in engineering, only. It is believed any air officer will be a better squadron commander, maintenance officer, radio officer, photograph officer or commanding officer of an air station for having had the course. There is no obligation to continue in engineering work.



EXTERIOR VIEW OF THE PENNSYLVANIA QUARTERS ON THE CAMPBELL FIELD, MANILA.

(Courtesy of the War Department)

California Auto News

The only aeroing in Southern California, a pony biplane built by the Goodwin Co., has been over, for about a year in the vicinity of Los Angeles. It was sold to the Marshall Nelson Photography, a moving picture concern, and therefore taken out of the service to Santa Catalina Island. The Catalinas are a group of islands off the coast of Southern California, about 15 miles from the mainland. Mr. Nelson took the biplane to Santa Catalina and used it for filming a very large picture entitled "Custer's Last Stand," and a number of smaller pictures with Indian scenes. George Blackwood, administrative supervisor of the Goodwin Co. has stated that the biplane did considerable work in the Southern California area during the early part of 1911, and that he has sold the biplane to a circus owner. He has three new pictures in course of making at the present time.

A dogfight was held between the Nelson Sheep and the Navy C-type at the Winter Air Tournament at Long Beach Dec. 26. It proved one of the most interesting features of the tournament, and aroused a great deal of comment from the spectators.

There is at present no plan to put lighter-than-aircraft into commercial transportation in California. Virgin efforts and means of finance from Los Angeles to San Diego and San Francisco have been frustrated by the present lack of public and private capital. It would require a minimum of \$10,000,000 or three 15 passenger dirigibles, but none has materialized with adequate capital. In order to make this a success it would call for a passenger rate of around \$50.00 for a 340 mile trip along the California coast.

The Secretary of the Navy is interested in rigid airship work on the Pacific coast. If Congress allows any airship activity the Navy a very large rigid station will be built on the old Camp Kearney site near San Diego. This has been made available for the Navy with a large amount of inexpensive land to develop the way. It is well situated and is accessible.

There has been a great deal of heavier than-air activity, and something of this sort is taking place each month. It is possible to fly periodically 707 days of the year. Before the war there was a great deal of ballooning, but there has been possibly an average activity with balloons since the war.

The Army Airfield School at Atchison, Col., is continuing fire-balloon training and sends out men with 35,000 and 35,000 ft. altitude records. The U.S. Glider Corps is prospering. The Aero Club of San Francisco has all flying interests under one organization, and also has the largest number of Councils, districts and state organizations, and at the City and County grounds. Members have flown approximately a million miles since December. A new Frisco was released. The Club was incorporated on February 1, 1933. The Glider Club of America has organized a series of regional contests. It endeavored to dispel much work of misrepresenting and commercializing flying generally as well as to keep up the social interest.

Any commercial organization which may plan to establish air transport or manufacturing in Southern California can be given information by the club, especially on relations to flying conditions and routes of travel. Air routes have been developed and information listed as to flying conditions and landing fields east into Texas and north through California.

Want A/c Mail

#### San Francisco Serial Data

The Board of Supervisors of San Francisco on Feb 14 unanimously passed the following resolution:

AND, WHEREAS, on that day of each ensuing year, Julian Gothic has made a flight and scattered pink roses on the waters of the Pacific ocean in tribute to him, and to his memory;

AND, WHEREAS, through the recognition and the response of the people, the movement has grown to include citizens in all countries where men live, as white domination was being perpetuated as a system, and that we might have world peace, AND, WHEREAS, the Indian new law has large significance, and a committee has been formed to represent San Francisco in the convention this year.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors do hereby request James Rolph, Jr., Mayor of San Francisco, to attend Wednesday, March 13, 1931, as Arrival Day, and to invite the people of San Francisco to participate in no commensurable celebration.

The resolution has now been endorsed by Major Holth, who issued an official questionnaire to this paper.

#### *\* Future Air Officers Training in U. S.*

Below is a list of foreign air officers who are taking training courses at U.S. Army Air Service Schools.—

Guido, Et., *Lt.* (Peru), *Congreso*, Lt. (Colombia), *Acuña*, J. Arvelo, Lt. (Chile), *Guanajuato*, Miguel, G. (Mexico), *Panteras*, Field, J. (Argentina), M. Coto, Lt. (Colombia), *Guerrero*, Lt. (Mexico), *Edición*, 2nd Level, (Colombia), *Tarso*, *Guadalupe*, Lt. (Mexico), *Frente*, *Guadalupe*, Lt. (Mexico), *Guadalupe*, Lt. (Mexico).

Li. Guido, Ferlik has recently been transferred to A. E. University, Edinburg.

Request has been made for transfer of Lt. Ernesto Terceiro Photographic School at Langley Field, Hampton, Va.  
Request made for Ensign Victor M. Padiola and Seaman  
Arturo de la Argentina Navy, to be given Spring training at  
Langley Field and for Sergeant Bustos of the Parachute Army  
to be given one month's training at Engineering School, Dayton,  
Ohio.



# Aircraft and National Defense

Many ill-informed statements upon the relation of aircraft to National Defense are current. These react unfavorably upon the public and our legislatures and tend to cloud vital questions of national policy.

A recent instance of this followed the storm created in army, navy and aviation circles by Brig.-Gen. William Mitchell's able testimony upon the effectiveness of bombing and torpedo planes against surface ships.

Radical changes in Government policy toward aviation are imminent. These developments are expertly and intelligently covered in AVIATION AND AIRCRAFT JOURNAL, together with the weekly news and authentic technical articles.

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STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION,  
ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912, of AVIATION AND AIRCRAFT JOURNAL published weekly at  
Highland, N. Y., for April 1, 1921.

State of New York  
County of New York, ss.

Before me, a Notary Public, in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared George Newbold, who having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the Business Manager of AVIATION AND AIRCRAFT JOURNAL and that the following is to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management, etc., of the aforesaid publication, to wit: No. of copies for the date shown in the above caption required by the Act of August 24, 1912, embodied in section 443, Postal Laws and Regulations, to wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business manager:

Franklin H. Gardner, Moffat Co., Inc., Highland, N. Y.; Editor, Ladislas D'Orey, 225 Fourth Ave., New York, N. Y.; Managing Editor, None; Business Manager, George Newbold, 225 Fourth Ave., New York, N. Y.

2. That the owners are: (Give names and addresses of individual owners, or, if a corporation, give its name and the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of the total amount of stock.)

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3. That the known stockholders, mortgagors, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are:

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4. That the names and addresses of the officers, managers, stockholders, and security holders, if any, contain not only the list of stockholders and security holders as they appear upon the books of the company but also, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books under a name different from the name of the person, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting, is given; also that the said two paragraphs contain statements embracing all information with respect to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner; and this affidavit has no reason to believe that any other person, association, or corporation has any interest direct or indirect in the said stock, bonds, or other securities than as so stated by him.

GEO. NEWBOLD.

Swearn to and subscribed before me this 8th day of April, 1921.  
(Seal.) FRANKLIN H. BROWN,

Notary Public, Kings County, No. 514.  
Certificate filed in New York County.

My commission expires March 30, 1923.

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